

## THE STRATEGIES OF THE NORTH AND SOUTH IN LATE MAY 1863

**UNION POLITICAL AIM: PRESERVE THE UNION**

### **UNION POLITICAL/DIPLOMATIC OBJECTIVES**

1. MAINTAIN AND STRENGTHEN FOREIGN RELATIONS WITH MAJOR EUROPEAN POWERS IN ORDER TO DENY INTERNATIONAL RECOGNITION OF THE CONFEDERACY
2. GAIN AND MAINTAIN STATE AND LOCAL POLITICAL SUPPORT FOR CONTINUED PROSECUTION OF THE WAR
3. TO FREE THE SLAVES IN THE CONFEDERACY (EMANCIPATION PROCLAMATION)

### **UNION ECONOMIC OBJECTIVES**

1. INCREASE INTERNATIONAL TRADE TO SUPPORT U.S. WAR EFFORT AND DENY THE CONFEDERACY ACCESS TO OVERSEAS MARKETS
2. PROHIBIT DOMESTIC TRADE WITH THE CONFEDERACY
3. MAINTAIN CLOSE CONTROL OF MONETARY POLICY TO MINIMIZE INFLATION

### **UNION MILITARY OBJECTIVES**

1. CONTINUE PRESENT COURSE OF ANACONDA PLAN (STRATEGY) TO SPLIT AND STRANGLE THE CONFEDERACY
2. ATTACK TO DESTROY MAJOR CONFEDERATE ARMIES IN THE WESTERN AND EASTERN THEATRES
3. CRIPPLE THE CONFEDERACY'S LOGISTICS BACKBONE BY SEIZING OR BLOCKADING KEY SEAPORTS AND DISRUPTING ALL KEY LOC'S
4. PREVENT THE ATTACK OR CAPTURE OF ANY MAJOR U.S. CITY, BUT PARTICULARLY WASHINGTON, D.C.

**STRATEGIC PURPOSE (IN ORDER TO) - DESTROY THE SOUTHERN PEOPLES' WILL AND CAPACITY TO FIGHT AND RESIST (CONFEDERATE ARMIES).**

**OPERATIONAL/TACTICAL PURPOSE- DESTROY LEE AND THE ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA**

### **UNION CENTERS OF GRAVITY**

1. **STRATEGIC-** PRESIDENT LINCOLN, AND THE HUMAN AND MATERIAL RESOURCES OF THE NORTH, WASHINGTON, D.C.
2. **OPERATIONAL/TACTICAL-** THE UNION ARMIES, UNION NAVY, AND THE EXTENSIVE LOGISTICS SYSTEMS (SUPPLY, TRANSPORTATION, ETC...)

### **UNION VULNERABILITIES (REAL AND POTENTIAL)**

1. **STRATEGIC-** NORTHERN PUBLIC OPINION/WILL AND FOREIGN RELATIONS WITH EUROPEAN POWERS, WASHINGTON, D.C.
2. **OPERATIONAL/TACTICAL-** SENIOR UNION MILITARY LEADERSHIP FROM 1861 TO MID-1863

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**CONFEDERATE POLITICAL AIM: TO GAIN INDEPENDENCE AND ESTABLISH ITS OWN SOVEREIGNTY**

### **CONFEDERATE POLITICAL/DIPLOMATIC OBJECTIVES**

1. GAIN INTERNATIONAL RECOGNITION
2. ENCOURAGE PEACE MOVEMENT IN THE NORTH THROUGH THE OFFER OF NEGOTIATED POLITICAL SETTLEMENT
3. SEEK EXPANSION OF "SOUTHERN WAY OF LIFE" TO THE WESTERN UNITED STATES

### **ECONOMIC OBJECTIVES**

1. REGAIN ACCESS TO DOMESTIC AND INTERNATIONAL MARKETS
2. SEEK SOME DIVERSIFICATION OF THEIR ECONOMY TO ENSURE ITS ABILITY TO COMPETE WITH THE NORTH

#### **MILITARY OBJECTIVES**

1. INVADE THE NORTH TO THREATEN WASHINGTON D.C AND OTHER MAJOR NORTHERN CITIES
2. SEEK A DECISIVE BATTLE WITH ARMY OF THE POTOMAC

#### **STRATEGIC PURPOSE (IN ORDER TO):**

1. DRAW GENERAL U.S. GRANT/UNION FORCES AWAY FROM VICKSBURG
2. IMPACT NORTHERN MORALE AND ENCOURAGE THE PEACE MOVEMENT TO SEEK POLITICAL SETTLEMENT
3. GAIN INTERNATIONAL RECOGNITION

#### **OPERATIONAL/TACTICAL PURPOSES**

1. SEVERELY DEGRADE COMBAT READINESS OF THE ARMY OF THE POTOMAC
2. FOIL UNION PLANS FOR SUMMER CAMPAIGN WAGED IN VIRGINIA
3. ALLOW THE SOUTH TO CONDUCT FALL HARVEST UNMOLESTED
4. CONFISCATE SUPPLIES FROM THE NORTH
5. INTERDICT UNION RAIL AND CANAL LOC'S AND DESTROY KEY BRIDGES

#### **CONFEDERATE CENTER'S OF GRAVITY**

1. **STRATEGIC-** PRESIDENT DAVIS, RICHMOND, CONFEDERATE ARMIES, AND WILL OF THE PEOPLE
2. **OPERATIONAL/TACTICAL-** LEE AND HIS ARMY, QUALITY OF SENIOR LEADERS DURING 1861-MID-1863

#### **VULNERABILITIES**

1. **STRATEGIC-** INSTITUTION OF SLAVERY, "KING COTTON" ECONOMIC SYSTEM DEPENDENT ON FOREIGN TRADE, NO MANUFACTURING CAPACITY, NO FOREIGN RECOGNITION, HUMAN RESOURCES
2. **OPERATIONAL/TACTICAL-** HUMAN AND MATERIAL RESOURCES, SUPPLY AND TRANSPORTATION DISTRIBUTION SYSTEMS; CONFEDERATE NAVY